DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 449 677 FL 026 579

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TITLE	French: An Accommodating Language? = Le Francais: Langue D'Accueil?
ISBN	ISBN-1-85359-504-7
PUB DATE	2000-00-00
NOTE	139p.; This book is volume 6, numbers 3 & 4 of the journal "Current Issues in Language and Society."
AVAILABLE FROM	Multilingual Matters Ltd., UTP, 2250 Military Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150 ($49.95). Web site: http://www.multilingual-matters.com.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020) -- Multilingual/Bilingual Materials (171)
LANGUAGE	English, French
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Charts; Foreign Countries; *French; *Language Attitudes; Language Dominance; *Linguistic Borrowing; Second Language Instruction; Second Language Learning; *Sociolinguistics; Spelling; Tables (Data); Vocabulary
IDENTIFIERS	Belgium; France; Germany

ABSTRACT

This bilingual book considers recent developments in French attitudes towards language purism, borrowing, and the incursion of English. The book begins with an essay by French sociolinguist Henriette Walter, and most of the following essays are direct responses to her ideas. All chapters are provided in French and English. Chapter titles include the following: "Le francais, langue d'accueil: chronologie, typologie et dynamique/French -- An Accommodating Language: The Chronology, Typology, and Dynamics of Borrowing" (Henriette Walter); "La metaphore de l'emprunt: implications pour une theorie de l'evolution des langues: Reponse a Henriette Walter/The Metaphor of Borrowing: Implications for a Theory of Language Evolution. A Response to Henriette Walter" (Penelope Gardner-Chloros); "Le dereglement du systeme de pensee francais: l'angoisse secrete des puristes? Reponse a Henriette Walter/Is It the Corruption of French Thought Processes the Purists Fear? A Response to Henriette Walter" (Jean-Marc Dewaele); "La dimension politique de l'emprunt et la reaction francaise. Reponse a Henriette Walter/The Political Dimension of Borrowings and French Reactions. A Response to Henriette Walter" (Dennis Ager); "Le francais, langue d'accueil ou langue sur la defensive? Reponse a Henriette Walter/Is French Really Open to Outside Influences? A Response to Henriette Walter" (Anne Judge); "Itineraires etymologiques Quelques mots en supplement/Etymological Routes: Some Supplementary Remarks? (Malcolm Offord); "La reforme de l'orthographe en France et en Allemagne: attitudes et reactions/Spelling Reform in France and Germany: Attitudes and Reactions" (Rodney Ball); "Le francais de Belgique filerait-il a l'anglaise?/Is French in Belgium More Susceptible to English Influence? (Emmanuelle Labeau). There is also a review by Jean-Marc Dewaele of the 1997 book "The Vocabulary of Modern French: Origins, Structure, and Function" by Hillary Wise. References are found at the conclusion of each chapter. (KFT)

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